



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Post-Courier

Since 1969 No. 9766

Thursday, September 13, 2007

Airfreight K1.70, Port Moresby edition K1.20

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Man gets 25 years for rape



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Policemen held for robbery



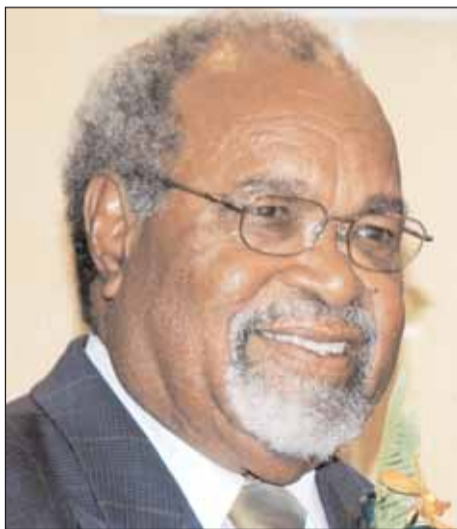
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LLG polls deferred to 2008

INSIDE TODAY ▶

The Motigate inquiry report...

Charge Somare



Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare

By ALEX RHEENEY

A PNG Defence Force Board of Inquiry has recommended Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare be charged for various offences over his alleged role in flying Julian Moti to Solomon Islands.

Sir Michael went to the National Court in April in a bid to suppress the army inquiry's report into the Solomon Islands' Attorney-General's clandestine escape in October last year, using a PNGDF CASSA aircraft.

However, the National Court yesterday ruled null and void the application of Sir Michael and three others including former chief secretary to government Joshua Kalinoe. (See story on Page 3).

They wanted to quash the inquiry's entire proceedings and subsequently its report.

While the matter was in court, copies

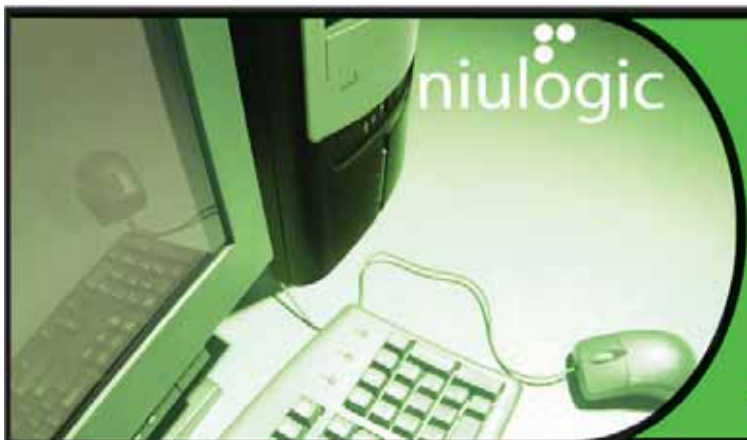
of the report were circulated and even placed on a website owned by an Australian newspaper.

A copy of the report obtained by the *Post-Courier* shows the Justice Gibbs Salika-headed inquiry was satisfied after its 73-day sitting that Sir Michael issued the direction for Moti to be secretly flown out.

"We have accepted the evidence that the Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare issued the direction to get rid of Moti. The direction was issued to Mr Leonard Louma, chief of staff and Mr Louma in turn passed the direction to Mr Joseph Assaigo to effect the direction. Mr Assaigo did, with the assistance from Colonel Alois Tom Ur. The chief secretary, Mr Joshua Kalinoe was informed of the operation but did nothing to prevent the operation.

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